brighter ideas about down-treading

a woman takes her latest.

"'Jeff,' says he, 'do you know

that I'm a crater—a living crater? "'That's a self-evident hypothesis,

says I. 'But you're not Irish. Why

to the rules and syntax of America?

to make a speech of some sort Drink,' says Andy, 'always drives

an old spell-binder named Canhari-

call Sen. Beveridge the Grand Young

Sphinx of the Wabash. I've got to get an audlenge together, Jeff, and

get this oral distension assuaged or

it may turn on me and I'd go about

feeling like a deckle-edged edition

de luxe of Mrs. E. D. E. N. South-

"'On what special subject of the

"'I ain't particular,' says Andy, 'I am equally good and varicese on

all subjects. I can take up the mat-

ter of Russian immigration, or the poetry of John W. Keats, or the tariff, or Kabyle literature, or drain-

age, and make my audience weep,

bound to get rid of this accumula-

tion of vernacular suppose you go out in town and work it on some

indulgent citizen. Me and the boys

will take care of the business.

Everybody will be through dinner pretty soon, and salt pork and beans

makes a man pretty thirsty. We

ought to take in \$1,500 more by

"So Andy goes out of the Blue

Snake, and I see him stopping men

on the street and talking to 'em.

soon I see him waving his arms and

elocuting at a good-sized crowd on

a corner. When he walks away they

string out after him, talking all the

time; and he leads 'em down the

main street of Bird City with more men joining the procession as they

go. It reminded me of the old leg-

erdemain that I'd read in books about the Pied Piper of Heidsleck

charming the children away from

"One o'clock came; and then 2;

and 3 got under the wire for place;

and not a Bird citizen came in for

a drink. The streets were deserted

except for some ducks and ladies going to the stores. Ther was only

"A lonesome man came along and

stopped in front of the Blue Snake to scrape the mud off his boots. "'Pardner,' says I, 'what has happened? This marning there was heetic gayety afoot; and now it seems more like one of them ruined cities of Tyre and Siphon where the lone lizard crawls on the walls of the

"The whole town,' says the muddy man, 'is up in Sperry's wool

a light drizzle falling then.

cry, sob and shed tears by turns." "'Well, Andy,' says I, "if you are

sire for vocality seems to be con-

The Octopus Marooned— By O. Henry

Hean announcing himself a candidate

for governor of Texas," I asked Jeff, Jestingly, if he had ever, during his checkered, plaided, mottled, pled and dappled career, conducted an enterprise of the class to which the word "trust" had been

bucket shop. But we lost out,"

up, I suppose," I said.

no relations between a trust and a have been worth \$200,000 or \$300,- looks at it a long time. That man's octopus, policeman. My remark was an epito- 000, I often wondered who owned intellects was never idle. And then "At the fashionable hour of noon hands and feet.

an egg you have to do it from the on the bank of the Rio Grande. The put it on the market.

trust bears in its own bosom the men and some gamblers and some The other one came easy at \$400. | poor man in Texas with a farm, pro- year." seeds of its destruction like a rooster horse speculators and plenty were in | "The next morning Bird City vided he furnished the site for it. that crows near a Georgia colored the smuggling line. Me and Andy woke up and found itself an island. "Andy was especial inroaded by



"A trust is it weakest point," said | been over in Mexico on a flying trip | wide arroyo that used to be the old ed out the windows and saw a hun- trade languishes." he unfolds to me a instantaneous everybody went home to dinner. We "Then I locked up the cash and

The only way to break up name of it was Bird City; but it "First we went to the main saloon We calculated that if Bird City would heard in Texas, he said, or anywhere a trust is from the inside. Keep sit- wasn't. The town had about 2,000 in Bird City, called the Blue Snake, only remain an island for two weeks else in the world. ting on it until it hatches. Look at inhabitants, mostly men. I figured and bought it. It cost us \$1,200, the trust would be able to endow "'What was it about?' I asked. the brood of young colleges and li- out that their principal means of And then we dropped in, casual, at the Chicago university with a new "Temperance," says he. 'And braries that's chirping and peopling existence was in living close to tall Mexican Joe's place, referred to the dormitory of padded cells for the when he got through every man in all ever the country. Yes, sir, every chaparral. Some of 'em were stock- rain, and bought him out for \$500. faculty, and present every worthy Bird City signed the pledge for a

The river had busted through its old self-esteem at our success, the rudichannel, and the town was sur- ments of the scheme having originrounded by roaring torrents. The ated in his own surmises and prerain was still raining, and there was montions. He got off the safe and heavy clouds in the northwest that lit the biggest cigar in the house. presaged about six more mean an- "'Jeff,' says he, 'I don't suppose nual rainfalls during the next two that anywhere in the world you weeks. But the worst was yet to could find three cormorants with

"Bird City hopped out of its nest, the proletariat than the firm of waggled its pin feathers and strolled Peter's Satan and Tucker, incor- Holy Roller College Men out for its matutinal toot. Lo! Mex- porated. We have sure handed the ican Joe's place was closed and like- small consumer a giant blow in the wise the other little 'dobe life-sav- sole apoplectic region. No?' ing station. So, naturally the body "'Well,' says I, 'it does look as if politic emits thirsty ejaculations of we would have to take up gartritis surprise and ports hellum for the and golf or be measured for kilts in

shooter on each side of him, ready day," to make change or corpses as the "Andy pours himself out four fin- The trouble started when the trusrigar, on the lookout for emergen- 'to the gods.'

at stratagems I and a sectional bookcase. It began | "Well, sir, it took Bird City just ning with Raisull and the Northern made a sally on the church chapel never he saw a dol- to rain the day we got there. As the 10 minutes to realize that it was in Pacific, and on down the line to the because 100 of the students refused man's hands he took saying is, Juniper Aquarius was sure a cage. We expected trouble; but little ones like the school book com- to stop their singing. nal grudge, if he couldn't turning on the water plugs on Mount there wasn't any. The citizens saw bine and the oleomargarine out. They had been singing for nine that we had 'em. The nearest rail- rages and the Lehigh Valley and hours without a halt! besides having a lot | "Now, there were three saloons in road was 30 miles away; and it Great Scott Coal federation, nformation. He had ac- Bird City, though neither Andy nor would be two weeks at least before "'It's all right, Andy,' says I, 40 amount of experience me drank. But we could see the the river would be fordable. So they drink the health of our brother out an official announcement which out of books, and could talk for towns-people making a triangular began to cuss, amiable, and throw monopolists, but don't overdo the Pres't H. D. Smith of the board of hours on any subject connected with procession from one to another all down dollars on the bar till it wassail. You know our most em. trustees was trying hard to make. iscourse. He had been day and half the night. Everybody sounded like a selection on the xylo- front and loathed multi-corruption. The announcement once delivered

"There was about 1,500 grown-up cuits." "The third day of the rain it adults in Bird City that had arrived "Andy went in the back room Smith finally had his little say, thiers' association con- slackened up awhile in the after- at years of indiscretion; and the ma- awhile and came out dressed in his but only after every one of the vention at Atlantic City to flooding noon, so me and Andy walked out jority of 'em required from three to best clothes. There was a kind of students was marched down to the with bogus wood alco- to the edge of town to view the 20 drinks a day to make life endur- murderous and soulful look of gentle village police station and haled bemudscape. Bird City was built be- able. The Brue Snake was the only riotousness in his eye that I didn't fore a magistrate. oring me and Andy had tween th Rio Grande and a deep place where they could get 'em till like. I watched him to see what

the flood subsided. It was beautiful warehouse listening to your side- parting from the tenets of the faith American Navy Acting and simple as all truly great swin- kicker make a speech. He is some as laid down by Mrs. Gertruda Moss. gravy on delivering himself of audi- its founder," "About 10 o'clock the silver dol- ble sounds relating to matters and

lars dropping on the bar slowed conclusions,' says the man.

down to playing two-steps and "Well, I hope he'll adjourn, sine religion." marches instead of jigs. But I look- quo non, pretty soon,' says I, 'for during which a Philadelphia capital- bed of the river. The bank be- dreds or two of our customers stand- "Not a customer did we have that "That," said I, "sounds like one ist had paid us \$2,500 for a half tween the stream and its old bed ing in line at Bird City Savings & afternoon. At 6 o'clock two Mexof those unintelligible remarks such interest in a silver mine in Chihua- was cracking and giving away, when Loan Co., and I knew they were icans brought Andy to the saloon hya. Oh, yes, the mine was all we saw it, on account of the high borrowing more money to be sucked lying across the back of a burro. "It is not," said Jeff. "There are right. The other half interest must water caused by the rain. Andy in by the clammy tendrils of the We put him to bed while he still

in parvo. What it means is that "In coming back to the United idea that has occurred to him, told the bartenders to take advan- went out to see what had happened a trust is like an egg, and it is not States me and Andy stubbed our Right there was organized a trust; tage of the lull, and do the same. I met a man who told me all about like an egg. If you want to break toes against a little town in Texas and we walked back into town and Then me and Andy counted the re- it. Andy had made the finest twocelpts. We had taken in \$1,300, hour speech that had ever been

Hertwig, Detroit paster.

STUDENTS GO ON SONG STRIKE TO KEEP INSTRUCTOR

Sing Nine Hours to Save Blind Pastor's Job.

NORTH BERGEN, N. J., April 2 in bug juice is, verily, all to the and grounds of the Holy Roller "Behind one end of the bar sits Skibo. And I can stand it,' says I. church and missionary college here. Jefferson Peters, octopus, with a six- 'I'd rather banten than bant any The town is tense with excite-

case may be. There are three bar- gers of our best rye and does with tees decided to dismiss Rev. Ernest tenders; and on the wall is a 10- it as was so intended. It was the L. Whitcomb, blind paster of the foot sign reading : All Drinks One first drink I had ever known him to Church of Jesus, official name of the

the move. They didn't want Rev. with two deputies to keep order, brage to the heathen diabetes he Rev. Harold L. Moss put in charge, and Andy Tucker was partners for put up at a hotel that was built like having been promised free drinks drinks another to our success. And as the trustees decreed. The entire

ists live on weak tea and dog bis- would remove Rev. Whitcomb and

Following their arraignment the his first drink; and the other is when students seized the college buildings They held forth for three days

had turned to an ice yacht. He was and nights and were only subjugated outwardly decent and managed to through starvation preserve his aquarium, but inside

> From Distant Lands, Many of the Holy Roller students

According to Miss Gertrude Har-

As Refugee's Guardian

"It's not true," sald Rev. Whitcomb. "I believe in demonstrative The American navy is acting as "And so do we," said the Holy Roller students, "and that's why

The American navy has undertaken to keep track of all of the sick people. thus separated from their families.

The number of sick is increasing. the hospitals of this city, whose refugee hospital equipped by the families have been separated from American Red Cross. Such is the them. The absolute necessity of inadequacy of facilities for caring "Blue laws must surely fail. Only evacuating refugees from Constan- for the sick, that in all hospitals he gospel of Jesus Christ can make tinople has resulted in hundreds de- available for refugees, more than the world better."-The Rev. F. A. parting from the city and leaving half of the patients are sleeping of

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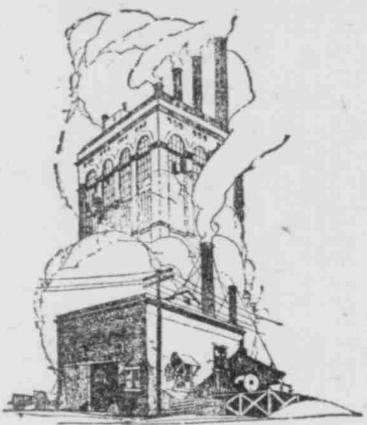
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grew up to be a swan

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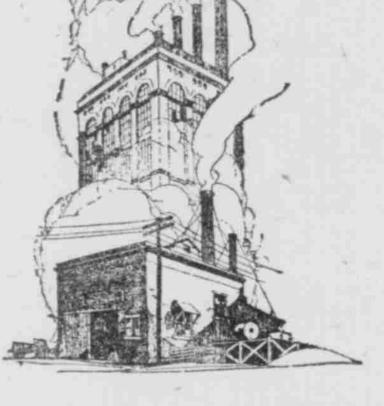


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Without money or credit, these puny electric light plants struggled for life with competition in towns and lived on hope out in

But such adversity is fitted to form character, to sharpen vision and to solidify purpose-and so it must have done in their case,

The Electric Light and Power industry

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